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1 MR. JOHNSON: Not that tall. This is my  
2 fourth -- no, my fifth time speaking before this Board,  
3 and giving my views about Yucca Mountain and nuclear  
4 waste. Seems like each time I come up with a different  
5 plan. Last time I blew a whistle to get everybody's  
6 attention. I have a feeling Nye County sheriffs would  
7 take me away if I did that today, so I won't.

8 The same faces you see every time. You know  
9 the Board, I'm beginning to know them, not by name but  
10 by face. And a lot of the activist groups that comes  
11 here and I applaud them, because they're not here  
12 trying to keep their job. There are a lot of workers  
13 that come here from the test site, and from Yucca  
14 Mountain, and they tell you that it's safe, that  
15 nothing has happened to them. But I know from  
16 experience in my family. I lost a grandfather to  
17 cancer due to him working at a, same kind of facility  
18 as the test site in Oakridge, Tennessee. Some of you  
19 may be familiar with it. And my father is suffering  
20 from cancer right now, and from the same thing, working  
21 at Oakridge.

22 And I myself, I'm a carpenter with 1780,

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23 local in Las Vegas. And their claim to fame is that

24 they built the test site. And so for me to stand up

25 here and give my views against it, it's almost

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1 detrimental to my livelihood, because there are

2 representatives that come here from my union and, you

3 know, they've lost a lot of respect for me because of

4 my battling against Yucca Mountain.

5 But, I have brothers and sister carpenters

6 that are working at Yucca Mountain right now, as we

7 speak, and I'm not trying to take the work away from

8 them. This isn't about whether you're working or not.

9 There's a lot of construction in the valley, and if

10 it's surrounding Yucca Mountain, look at all the

11 construction, not just Las Vegas, it's everywhere.

12 It's a booming state. So to say it's going to take

13 away someone's job, they can get another job. It's not

14 like they have to work at Yucca Mountain Project or at

15 the test site. They shut the test site down today,

16 those carpenters would be working tomorrow. Because

17 they're good hands, and another company would say,

18 we'll put you on.

19 There's a lot of construction, so it's not

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20 about jobs. It's not about the safety of the test  
21 site. We all know the test site isn't that safe.  
22 Anyone that's lived in this area knows, there are  
23 shipments of nuclear waste going in there right now.  
24 They're digging holes and burying it out there,  
25 illegally. There's nothing we can do to stop them.

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1 Those shipments have been coming through here for  
2 years. But they're not marked. They're not a big  
3 target on a container. And that's what we have to  
4 start fighting.  
5 We have to start fighting that the government  
6 isn't realizing that these are moving targets. Moving  
7 that nuclear waste from the facilities where it is is a  
8 moving target. And now with the terrorist attacks, and  
9 they're worried about biological attacks, you think  
10 that the airports are safe now? Well, they might be.  
11 But the terrorists aren't going to use the same thing  
12 each time. They're going to catch us off guard every  
13 time. All of our facilities right now are looking at  
14 the airports and increasing the security there. And  
15 here we are, we're going to be starting shipments  
16 across the United States. Nuclear casks marked, big.

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17 You can't miss them. And there are weapons out there  
18 that can take them out just like that. No problem.  
19 And the mess that it leaves behind is something that  
20 you can't get rid of.

21 I worked in the Navy. I was in the Navy for  
22 four years, and they trained me in nuclear, biological  
23 and chemical warfare, and in that class we learned how  
24 to clean up the mess, and it's not -- it's not like you  
25 think, you can go spray shaving cream on it and it goes  
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1 away. It isn't. The chemicals you use to clean it up  
2 are just as hazardous to the environment and the health  
3 of people in the area. You have to close the area  
4 down.

5 Now imagine that happening on the highway  
6 coming out here. I noticed a lot of road work, took us  
7 a while to get in here. Imagine if it happened on one  
8 of your streets, you wouldn't be able to get in and out  
9 of this valley, you wouldn't be able to get in and out  
10 of the Las Vegas area. Las Vegas would dry up. The  
11 whole state, in effect, would dry up, because for  
12 hundreds of miles, that would be a mess. They can't  
13 contain it because the chemicals they use to clean it

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14 up, they have to wash away with water. Where does it  
15 go then? Where does it go then? It goes into the  
16 ground system.

17 Right now at the test site they're digging  
18 probes, putting probes in the ground, as we speak, to  
19 try and locate the mess that they've made 50 years ago,  
20 to see if it's flowing, and if it is flowing, which  
21 direction and can they stop it? Because it's in the  
22 ground. And you can't get it out of the ground once  
23 it -- it's in the system of the flow system, it's  
24 there. It's going to be flowing downhill, down the  
25 system, and this valley is one of the systems that it's

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1 flowing into. And it will be out of Yucca Mountain  
2 also.

3 Now I'm running for Congress, and I'm not  
4 going to make a bunch of promises. I just think that  
5 it's time you start thinking about it, and start  
6 telling your children to fight, because this is going  
7 to be a battle they're going to have to fight. I'm  
8 surprised not to see some children here. You have to  
9 get them involved when they're children. Let them know  
10 that they can come to public meetings and they can

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11 start speaking out, and that they can go to their  
12 school and they can start telling their classmates, we  
13 have to spread the word. Because that's what America  
14 all started with. Was a group of people like these  
15 people right here in this room, that decided to dump a  
16 bunch of tea into the Boston harbor, and of course they  
17 had somebody stand up and say, "Don't piss off the  
18 king."

19 (LAUGHTER)

20 But look what it got us. It got us  
21 democracy. So let's not waste that democracy. Let's  
22 all get out there and try and stop what they say is  
23 inevitable. What I say, it's stoppable. Thank you.